

(19) World Intellectual Property  
Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
11 March 2004 (11.03.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2004/020939 A3**

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **G01B 21/20**,  
5/20, 7/28, 11/24

Roberts [GB/GB]; Park Farm, Stancombe, Dursley,  
Gloucestershire GL11 6AT (GB).

(21) International Application Number:  
PCT/GB2003/003738

(74) Agent: **FOWLER, Maria, Jayne et al**; Renishaw plc,  
Patent Department, New Mills, Wotton-under-Edge,  
Gloucestershire GL12 8JR (GB).

(22) International Filing Date: 29 August 2003 (29.08.2003)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
0220158.0 30 August 2002 (30.08.2002) GB

(81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU,  
AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU,  
CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH,  
GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC,  
LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW,  
MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC,  
SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA,  
UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*): **REN-  
ISHAW PLC** [GB/GB]; New Mills, Wotton-under-Edge,  
Gloucestershire GL12 8JR (GB).

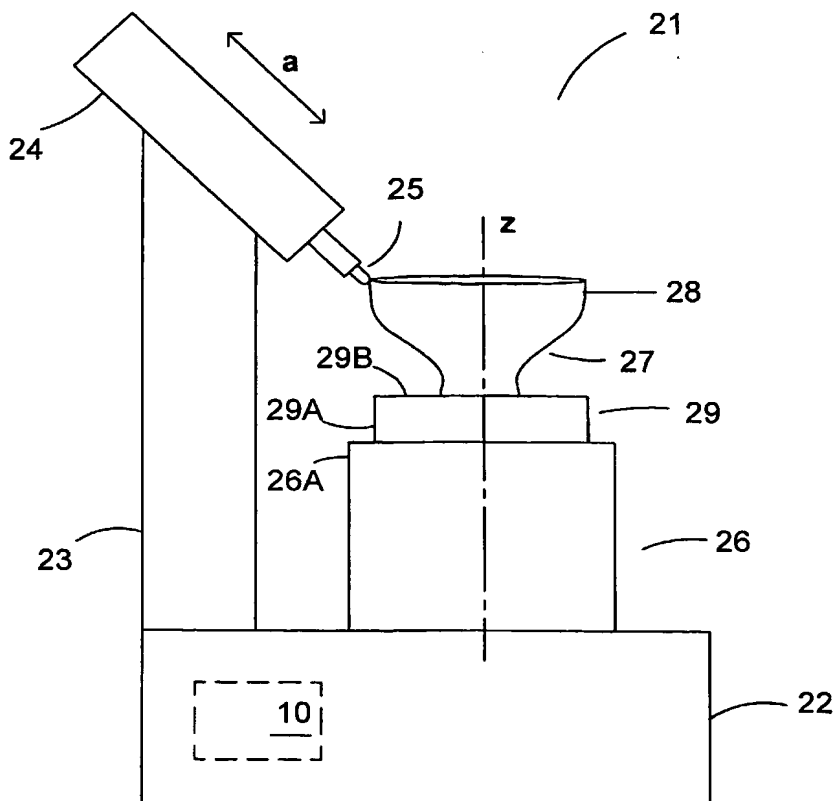
(84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM,  
KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW),  
Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),  
European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE,  
ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO,

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (*for US only*): **McMURTRY, David**,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD OF SCANNING AN OBJECT



(57) Abstract: A method of scanning an object is disclosed comprising the steps of providing a scanning device having a probe and a sample holder whereby the sample holder is rotatable relative to the probe, providing a first feature for indicating the start and/or end of a scan, and recognising the first feature whereby when the first feature is recognised the scanning device is ready to start or end a scan. The scanning device may have a fixed stop which comprises the first feature alternatively, the first feature is provided on the scanning device or on the object. A second feature, located on the scanning device or object for example, may be provided wherein the first feature indicates the start of a scan and the second feature indicates the end of the scan. Also disclosed is an apparatus for scanning an object.



SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

— *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

**Declaration under Rule 4.17:**

— *of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only*

**(88) Date of publication of the international search report:**

20 January 2005

**Published:**

— *with international search report*

*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*